

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 AF-06 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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P R 121247Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4241

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 5378

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO, PINS

SUBJECT: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

REFS: (A) LISBON 5342 DTG 111336Z SEP 75

(B) LISBON 5372 DTG 121227Z SEP 75

SUMMARY: FAR-LEFT UDP AND FUR SPONSORED RALLIES DEPT. 11 IN LISBON AND OPORTO, RESPECTIVELY, COMMEMORATING SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF FALL OF ALLENDE GOVERNMENT. IN STRUGGLE BETWEEN FAR LEFT GROUPS, PLENARY OF MILITARY POLICE REGIMENT IN AJUDA REPUDIATED DECISIONS REACHED PREVIOUS DAY. MAJ. TOME AND UDP FACTION APPEARS TO HAVE COME OUT ON TOP OF MRPP ELEMENTS. COPCON ON SEPT. 11 RETURNED MUCH OF MATERIAL, INCLUDING OFFICE FURNISHINGS, SEIZED DURING MAY 28 RAIDS ON MRPP OFFICES. GROUP CLAIMING RESPONSIBILITY FOR ONE OF YESTERDAY'S BOMBINGS IN LISBON SAYS ACT WAS PROTEST

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AGAINST CONDEMNATION OF BASQUE NATIONALISTS. BANK ROBBERY

IN LISBON SEPT 11 MAY HAVE POLITICAL MOTIVATIONS. MEDIA CONTINUES TO GIVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO SPINOLA ACTIVITIES. END SUMMARY.

1. CHILE: CROWDS NUMBERING IN LOW THOUSANDS ATTENDED RALLIES SEPT 11 PROMOTED BY UDP AND FUR IN LISBON AND OPORTO, RESPECTIVELY, TO COMMEMORATE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF FALL OF ALLENDE GOVERNMENT IN CHILE AND TO EXPRESS SOLIDARITY WITH "LIBERATION MOVEMENTS" IN CHILE, BRAZIL, AND SPAIN. LISBON PRESS CARRIED EXTENSIVE EDITORIAL COMMENT AND COMMEMORATIVE ARTICLES ON SAME THEMES.

2. MILITARY POLICE PLENUM: AT SEPT 11 PLENARY MEETING, MILITARY POLICE REGIMENT IN AJUDA (TWO COMPANIES OF WHICH HAD REFUSED TO EMBARK FOR ANGOLA AND WERE SUBSEQUENTLY CENSURED BY COUNCIL OF REVOLUTION) VOTED TO REPUDIATE POSITIONS ADOPTED IN SEPTEMBER 10 UNIT ASSEMBLY MEETING (REF A). ROLE OF MRPP LED WORKERS AND NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS IN SEPT. 10 ASSEMBLY MEETING WERE SPECIFICALLY REPUDIATED AND A MOTION OF SUPPORT FOR UNIT'S COMMANDERS' EFFORTS TO RESTRUCTURE REGIMENT ALONG "REVOLUTIONARY LINES" WAS ADOPTED. PLENUM ALSO WENT ON RECORD SUPPORTING POSITION OF MEDIA WORKERS AGAINST REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL RESTRICTIONS ON MEDIA COVERAGE OF MILITARY ACTIVITIES.

3. MRPP MATERIAL RETURNED: MRPP MADE NEWS ON ITS OWN, MEANWHILE, WHEN COPCON ON SEPT 11 RETURNED TO PARTY SOME OF MATERIAL -- FILES, POLITICAL LITERATURE, FURNITURE -- SEIZED IN MAY 28 RAID ON MRPP OFFICES. REMAINDER OF MATERIAL IS EXPECTED TO BE RETURNED SOON. MRPP SECRETARY GENERAL ARNALDO MATOS ATTRIBUTED MOVE TO REALIZATION ON PART OF UNSPECIFIED "DEMOCRATIC" OFFICERS IN COPCON THAT THEY HAD BEEN USED BY PCP.

4. MORE ON BOMBINGS: SOLIDARIEDADE REVOLUCIONARIA INTERNACIONALISTA OR SOLIDARIDADE COMUNISTA INTERNACIONALISTA, (SRI) AS ONE ACCOUNT CALLS GROUP, PROCLAIMED SEPT 12 THAT ITS BOMBING OF SPANISH EMBASSY GARAGE IN EARLY MORNING OF PREVIOUS DAY WAS DEMAND FOR LIBERATION OF GARMENDIA AND OTAEGUI, AND ALSO A BLOW AGAINST CAPITALIST REGIME OF FRANCO. SRI PROCLAMATION WENT ON TO CONDEMN PRIVATE AND STATE CAPITALISM AND CALL FOR A "FREE COMMUNISM." SRI DISCLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR BOMBING OF AIR
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MOROCCO'S OFFICE. OFFICE IS LOCATED QUITE NEAR IBERIAN AIRWAYS, AND SRI, IF IT WERE RESPONSIBLE, WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT IT MISSED ITS TARGET. COMMUNIST-LINING O SECULO SAID BOMBINGS WERE DIRECTED AGAINST THREE ANTI-DEMOCRATIC AND ANTI-POPULAR TARGETS: SPAIN, MOROCCO, AND US (ITT'S SHERATON HOTEL).

5. BANK ROBBERY: ON SEPT 11, FIVE MEN, REPORTEDLY ARMED WITH AUTOMATIC WEAPONS, ROBBED LISBON BANCO PORTUGUES DO ATLANTICO

OF \$240,000, IN FIFTH BANK ROBBERY OF PAST MONTH. (COMMENT:
USE OF WHAT MAY HAVE BEEN MILITARY WEAPONS INDICATE ROBBERY MIGHT
HAVE BEEN WORK OF EXTREMIST GROUP OF EITHER LEFT OR RIGHT. END
COMMENT.)

6. SPINOLA: LISBON PRESS OF SEPT 11 AND 12 GAVE PROMINENT
COVERAGE TO SPINOLA'S INTERVIEW IN PARIS WITH "O ESTADO DE SAO
PAULO." SPINOLA CALLED FOR RETURN OF MILITARY TO BARRACKS;
DECLARED HIMSELF AGAINST PINOCHET-TYPE REGIME; AND LABELLED
ANTUNES GROUP AS HAVING COMMUNIST TENDENCIES. SPINOLA DISCLAIMED
INTENTION TO ENTER PORTUGAL FROM NORTH AS HEAD OF PORTUGUESE
LIBERATION ARMY (ELP), AND SAID THAT MDLP HAS ALL ITS FORCES
WITHIN PORTUGAL. SPINOLA REPORTEDLY CONCEDED THAT HE WAS
ENGAGED IN POLITICAL CONTACTS AND SAID HE MIGHT STAY IN PARIS
FOR 6-12 MONTHS. PORTUGUESE NEWS SERVICE (ANI) ON SEPT 11
TIED SPINOLA'S RUMORED VISIT TO MADRID TO ALLEGED PREPARATIONS
OF ELP LEADER APOIM CALVAO, ANI SPECULATED THAT CALVAO MAY
ALREADY BE IN NORTHERN PORTUGAL TO PREPARE WAY FOR HIS FORCES,
AND HAD DECIDED TO LEND ELP SUPPORT TO SPINOLA. ANI ALSO
REPORTED THAT CALVAO HAD ESTABLISHED BASE IN GALICIA, ON PORTU-
GUESE BORDER, AND THAT SPINOLA MIGHT TRAVEL THERE.

7. COMMENT: MP PLENUM'S DECISION TO REPUDIATE UNIT ASSEMBLY
POSITIONS REPRESENTS VICTORY OF UNIT COMMANDERS, WHO HAVE STRONG
TIES TO UDP, OVER MRPP INFLUENCED JUNIOR OFFICERS AND NON-COMS.

8. CONTINUED COMMENTARY AND SPECULATION RE SPINOLA ACTIVITIES IS
UNSETTLING FACTOR ON POLITICAL SCENE. REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL
PUBLIC WARNING TO SPINOLA THAT HE WOULD BE DEALT WITH SEVERELY
SHOULD HE RETURN (REF B) WAS ATTEMPT TO DEFUSE SOME OF SPECU-
LATION.
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